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Maghreb summit postponed

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia confirmed Wednesday that it was suspending its efforts to convene a summit meeting of the five nations of the Maghreb (North-West Africa). Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi said in an address published in Wednesday's newspapers President Bourguiba "judged it useful to postpone for the immediate future the convening of this summit in order to permit our Maghreb brothers to pursue their dialogue." He said there was a "fundamental difference of approach" towards the Western Sahara conflict. Algeria Tuesday accused King Hassan of Morocco of intransigence over his stance in the Western Sahara conflict, the Algerian News Agency APS, monitored in Paris, reported. In a statement on King Hassan's position on the former Spanish colony, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said the king had shown "a clear demonstration of Morocco's intransigence towards a just and definitive solution of the Western Sahara affair."

Britain to abolish BNO

LONDON (R) — The British government announced Wednesday it intends to abolish the state oil trading company, which has been losing money as a result of falling spot crude prices. Minister of State for Energy Alick Buchanan-Smith told parliament the British National Oil Corporation (BNOC) had traditionally operated by purchasing and selling oil under term contracts at prices fixed for a period of months ahead. "There has however now been a major change in the structure of the oil market away from term contracts and towards spot and similar short-term transactions," Mr. Buchanan-Smith said. He said that in these circumstances BNOC could only avoid losses by linking its prices to movements in the spot market. Such a system would mean that BNOC could no longer contribute to market stability. As a result the government had concluded that there was no point in retaining BNOC in its present form, he said.

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Obeidat returns from Moscow

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat and an official delegation accompanying him returned home Wednesday after taking part in the funeral of the late Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko and presenting the condolences of His Majesty King Hussein. The Jordanian government and people to the Soviet government and people. The delegation included Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Minister of Foreign Affairs Taher Al Masri and Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb. Mr. Obeidat was received upon arrival by Deputy Prime Minister Suleiman Arar, ministers and senior Soviet embassy officials.

Parliamentarians pay condolences

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Lower House Speaker Akef Al Fayez and a number of parliament members Wednesday visited the Soviet embassy in Amman to pay their condolences over the death of Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko.

Kilbi deplors U.S. veto

PARIS (AP) — Chadli Kilbi, secretary-general of the Arab League, on Wednesday deplored the United States' veto of a U.N. Security Council resolution condemning Israel's practices in southern Lebanon. Mr. Kilbi said the American position once again would lead to "deception and bitterness" in the Arab World. "The Arab World is more preoccupied by the maintenance of unreserved American support for Israel, by the protection that Washington continues to assure it, than by certain indications that led to hopes after the visit of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia (in February) for an evolution in the policy of the United States in the Middle East," he said.

Ghali meets Kimche in Geneva

TEL AVIV (R) — David Kimche, director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, and Boutros Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, met for two hours in Geneva Tuesday, an Israeli spokesman said Wednesday. He said the two, who were attending a U.N.-sponsored conference on aid to Africa, discussed their countries' relations, especially in the light of the recent peace initiative by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. He gave no other details.

Dumas to visit Lebanon soon

PARIS (AP) — French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas will pay a visit to Beirut shortly to meet Lebanese leaders, but the exact date has not yet been set, his ministry announced Wednesday. Mr. Dumas, on a visit to Moscow when Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko died, met there Wednesday with Lebanese Premier Rashid Karami. The ministry added.

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Reagan: Egyptian plan positive but not enough

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan said Tuesday that Egypt's formula for rekindling Middle East peace talks is "a positive contribution" and promised his country will "support the parties' efforts to build on this promising beginning."

Mr. Reagan, reading out a statement after two hours of talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak at the White House, credited the Egyptian leader of "making suggestions which have helped renew interest in the peace process and I regard them as a positive contribution and I appreciate the constructive spirit in which you have offered them."

However, Mr. Reagan said any negotiations must be within the framework of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 which provides both for the restoration of Arab land now occupied by Israel and the recognition of Israel to live in peace in secure and recognized borders.

Mr. Reagan said any agreement also must recognize "the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people."

"In the full knowledge that the parties are still a long way from the negotiating table," Mr. Reagan added, "the United States takes an active interest in these developments and we'll support the parties' efforts to build on this promising beginning."

In a toast at a dinner honoring Mr. Mubarak, the president said there was renewed hope that the peace process can be "invigorated."

view was that the Egyptian proposal did not go far enough and Washington believed that nothing would be gained by a U.S. meeting with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation as called for by Mr. Mubarak.

The U.S., which has refused to talk with the PLO until the organization recognizes Israel, suspects that the joint delegation might include PLO members, according to administration officials.

Mr. Reagan said in the dinner speech, "one question that we must address forthrightly is how the Palestinians should be represented" in peace talks, adding that there should be Palestinian representation in every stage of the negotiating process.

"These Palestinians should include representatives from the West Bank and Gaza and other Palestinians as mutually agreed by the parties," he added.

However, there was no shift from the administration's refusal to deal with the PLO.

At the dinner, which was held in the glittering Thomas Jefferson reception room at the State Department, Mr. Mubarak hailed U.S.-Egyptian relations, saying between Cairo and Washington are "strengthening the cause of peace in our part of the world."

The administration official said Mr. Mubarak did not abandon his idea for U.S. talks with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. "He didn't come with the idea to give it up in Washington," the official said. "The basic question is: How does it advance the parties to direct negotiations?"

(Continued on page 2)

Iraq launches counter-offensive, reports fierce fighting in south

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said Wednesday it would turn the marshes of the southern Gulf war front into a "floating graveyard" as it mounted a counter-offensive against Iranian troops who attacked there two days ago and fierce fighting was continuing on the front.

Iraq also said its warplanes shot down an Iranian F-5 jet fighter in a dogfight over northern Iraq, adding that all Iraqi aircraft returned safely to their bases.

On the southern front, where heavy fighting was reported, Iraq announced it had upgraded its command for a two-pronged counter-offensive.

An official statement said Defence Minister Adnan Khairallah, the army's number two commander after President Saddam Hussein, was at the front to lead the Iraqi forces.

Iraq Tuesday warned Iranian forces, who attacked across the flat Huwizah marshes late Monday night, to retreat or face "certain death."

An announcer on Baghdad Radio said Wednesday: "We will turn Al Huwizah into a floating graveyard."

Huwizah separates parts of the southern Iraqi region from border-side Iranian territory. The western fringe of Huwizah is 10 kilometres east of the main highway that links Basra to Baghdad.

The Iranian news agency, IRNA, said Wednesday Iraqi jets attacked Isfahan, a former royal Persian capital 400 kilometres from the Iran-Iraq border, and the western city of Bakhtar.

Iran contended the alleged Iraqi raids breached a halt on attacks on civilian centres which the United Nations had proposed should

come into force at midnight GMT on Monday. Both Iran and Iraq accepted the call.

An Iranian military communiqué said Iran retaliated to the alleged Iraqi raids by hitting military and economic installations in Basra, a city of one million people pounded regularly by Iran for a week. Basra residents said over 800 shells fell on the city, killing more than 100 people.

The communiqué, quoted by IRNA, said Iraqi jets bombed Bostan in Khuzestan province, killing 16 civilians, Bowkan in the northwest and a village near Hamadan in western Iran.

The agency said earlier that Marivan, a border village in Kordestan province, had been hit by long-range Iraqi artillery, and Deputy Foreign Minister Hussein

(Continued on page 2)

Israeli planes bomb suspected resistance base in Bekaa Valley

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Israeli warplanes bombed a Palestinian base in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley on Wednesday, and, according to reports reaching here, caused no casualties.

The Israeli military command in Tel Aviv said its planes attacked a base two kilometres west of the Bekaa Valley town of Bar Elias.

Israeli military sources quoted by the Associated Press said the Israeli planes bombed a two-storey house and nearby trenches about 300 metres south of the Beirut-Damascus highway. The sources also said the building was used by Saika, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) faction mostly closely associated with Syria.

But a spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) said in Damascus the base belonged to the front.

A Syrian military spokesman, quoted by the official Syrian news agency SANA, said: "Two hostile Israeli F-15 jets today bombed a number of civilian houses in Bar Elias area."

He said the planes were intercepted by Syrian air defences and driven away.

The PFLP said in a statement released in Damascus that "a formation of enemy planes today raided with rockets one of our bases in the Bekaa, but were intercepted by heavy anti-aircraft gunfire and driven away."

The spokesman said the PFLP suffered no casualties.

The "Voice of Lebanon" radio station said that a squadron of five Israeli planes fired rockets on the suspected base in Taanayel, four kilometres northwest of Bar Elias, and drew anti-aircraft fire from at least three Syrian anti-aircraft batteries in the area.

Bar Elias is 10 kilometres west of the Syrian border and about 12 kilometres north of Israel's "front line" facing Syrian troops in the Bekaa Valley.

It was the fourth Israeli air strike in Lebanon so far this year. The last one was Feb. 11 at Taanayel, five kilometres northwest of Bar Elias.

All four air strikers this year were on bases Israel claimed were used by Syrian-backed Palestinian commandos.

Wednesday's air attack followed a week of intensified resistance attacks against Israel's occupation army in South Leb-



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (right) and U.S. President Ronald Reagan meet at the White House Tuesday (AP wirephoto)

Falangist militia leader revolts against Gemayel

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A serious split emerged in the mostly Christian Falangist Party of President Amin Gemayel Wednesday when the commander of the party's militia seized control of major cities and highways in Lebanon's Christian heartland in a revolt against Mr. Gemayel's leadership of the party.

Although rebel commander Samir Geagea, who has close ties with Israel, declared in a communiqué that his militiamen held control of most Christian areas, uniformed Falangist irregulars loyal to Mr. Gemayel were seen at checkpoints in the streets of Beirut's mostly Christian eastern sector.

Radio stations had earlier reported Mr. Geagea's forces seized east Beirut in addition to the popular port of Jounieh and coastal Byblos in a dawn-to-dusk sweep that left one man killed and three wounded.

Sources in the Christian community told the Associated Press that Mr. Geagea took control of the three major east Beirut garages of the "Lebanese Forces," the nation's largest rightist militia, but has ordered their fighters to avoid clashes with the "military police" force of the Falangist Party.

A statement early Wednesday by "Lebanese Forces" commander Fuad Abu Nader said it was reasserting its prerogative to make independent decisions and take all measures to put these decisions into effect in the political, security, financial and information spheres.

Mr. Geagea's men control a coastal checkpoint south of the northern port of Tripoli which the Falange, the dominant party among Lebanon's Christians, wants to close under a Syrian-backed security plan.

All commercial traffic passing the checkpoint at Barbara must pay a toll to the "Lebanese Forces."

Mr. Geagea's aides said the Falange leadership had lost touch with the feeling of ordinary party members since the assassination in 1982 of Amin Gemayel's younger brother, President-elect Bashir Gemayel, who was the military commander of the "Lebanese Forces."

Shops and schools shut in east Beirut and soldiers and gunmen set up roadblocks north of the capital as the political crisis deepened.

Mr. Gemayel brought more than 60 Christian religious leaders and parliament members to a mid-morning conference at his presidential palace in suburban Baabda by army helicopters to "decide on ways to cope with crisis," radio stations said.

After four hours of deliberations, the conference issued a statement that denounced "any attempt to infringe on the unity of

(Continued on page 3)

PLO says U.S. stand creating 'explosive situation' in Mideast

By John Rice
The Associated Press

AMMAN — A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official Wednesday warned of an "explosive situation" in the Middle East because of the U.S. refusal to deal with the PLO.

Khalil Wazir (Abu Jihad), the PLO's deputy military commander, made his remarks to the Associated Press after President Ronald Reagan's administration had refused to accept a proposal by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak for talks with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

"We expected that stand from the Americans," said Mr. Wazir. "There is no hope for them."

Mr. Wazir said the U.S. stand "will create a very explosive situation in the area" and he added

the PLO "will continue our activities in all the world" to pressure Washington to change its position.

Mr. Mubarak, who arrived in Washington on Saturday, had urged the United States to host the joint delegation as a first step toward reviving Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Following Mr. Mubarak's meeting with Mr. Reagan on Tuesday, an administration official, who refused to be named, told reporters that nothing would be gained by a U.S. meeting with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Administration sources said they suspected the delegation might include members of the PLO. The United States has refused to deal with the PLO until it recognises Israel.

Mr. Reagan said Egypt's formula for rekindling peace talks

was "a positive contribution" but did not go far enough.

There was no immediate reaction to the U.S. stand from Jordanian government officials. On March 6, King Hussein supported Mr. Mubarak's proposals for U.S. contacts with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and urged the United States to seize this "last chance" to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In Cairo, the Egyptian newspapers said the Egyptian leader had succeeded in rekindling U.S. interest in Middle East diplomacy.

"Reagan's proposals help renew interest in the peace process," bannered the major Egyptian daily Al-Ahram.

The English-language Egyptian Gazette said the United States

(Continued on page 3)

Chernenko given hero's funeral at Red Square

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The late Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko was buried with full state honours in Moscow's Red Square Wednesday in a solemn ceremony attended by dozens of world leaders.

To the strains of Chopin's funeral march, Mr. Chernenko's coffin, draped in red and black crepe, was borne on a gun carriage through the streets of Moscow from the ornate green 18th-century Hall of Columns, where his body had laid in state.

The bells of the Kremlin pealed, an artillery salute boomed and tactical sirens blared across the Soviet Union after the burial, the third funeral of a Soviet Communist Party leader in less than two and a half years.

Mr. Chernenko's successor, Mikhail Gorbachev, 54, delivered a funeral oration from atop the Lenin Mausoleum in Red Square after the gun carriage was towed past guards of honour and thousands of workers brought to central Moscow for the funeral.

Moments before the coffin was lowered into the freshly dug earth, Mr. Chernenko's widow, Anna, bid an emotional farewell to her husband. She stood by the side of his open coffin, stroking his forehead in grief and bending several times to press her cheek against his face and kiss him.

After two minutes, another woman gently took her arm and led Mrs. Chernenko away from the coffin.

The 10 surviving members of the politburo stood at attention, their arms raised in salute and Mr. Chernenko's coffin was lowered.

As the Soviet national anthem was played, the flag atop a Kremlin building was raised from half

(Continued on page 3)

Gorbachev greets world leaders

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Dozens of leaders from East, West and the non-aligned world greeted the Soviet Union's new leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, Wednesday at an hour-long ceremony in the Kremlin.

Mr. Gorbachev, 54, stood beneath the chandeliers of the Tsarist St. George's Hall to shake hands and exchange words with presidents, premiers, party chiefs and other dignitaries after the burial of President Konstantin Chernenko.

For many of the Westerners it was their first meeting with the man seen as offering a new challenge in relations with the Soviet Union after years of elderly and physically infirm leadership.

Enacting a ritual seen for the third time since 1983, Mr. Gorbachev nodded a brief greeting to his country's East European allies before they filed past a black-draped portrait of the late president.

He paused longer with the Westerners, who included the leaders of France, Britain, West Germany

and Japan as well as U.S. Vice President George Bush. Some of them had shuffled toward in line for an hour in the 100 metre long hall.

The warmest greeting was reserved for Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Chinese Vice-Premier Li Peng.

The Chinese and Indian delegations were whisked ahead of the line by Kremlin aides and stood for up to a minute in conversation with Mr. Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

In his acceptance speech on Monday, Mr. Gorbachev singled out China, saying Moscow wanted good relations.

Mr. Gorbachev's assassinated mother, Indira developed warm ties with Moscow, becoming the Kremlin's closest non-communist ally.

Several of the Western leaders, including Mr. Bush, President Francois Mitterrand of France, British Prime Minister Margaret

(Continued on page 3)



Jerusalem Advertising Agency signs agreement with Yemenia, opens branch in Sana'a

SANA'A, North Yemen — An agreement was signed Tuesday by the Yemenia, the North Yemeni national carrier, and the Amman-based Jerusalem Advertising Agency under which the agency will act as the advertising representative of Yemenia in the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

The agreement was signed by Mr. Abdul Rageeb Saeed of Yemenia and the agency's director general, Basem Dajani.

The agency will open a branch, during the coming few days, in Sana'a to be the nuclei of cooperation between Jordan and North Yemen in aviation advertising and other fields as well, a spokesman for the agency said in Amman.

The Jerusalem Advertising Agency is the first Jordanian advertising agency to open branches outside Jordan.

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Details P.3

BEIRUT (Agencies)—A Lebanese cabinet minister said that a U.S. veto of a resolution in the U.N. Security Council condemning Israel for its practices in South Lebanon contradicted America's human rights policies elsewhere.

The woman, later identified as American journalist Maressa Jeotiry, shouted while being dragged out by U.N. Security "the (Sec-

The draft resolution would have condemned Israeli military actions against civilians in southern

statement said. It termed U.S. Middle East policy as "dan-

Meanwhile, Libyan leader

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Science in Action 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:09 Sarah and Company 19:40 Book Choice 19:45 Sports Round-up 22:00 Newswest 22:30	09:30 09:30 09:45 09:45	Agaba (RU) Cairo (RU) Kuwait (RU) Jeddah (RU)
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DEPARTURES	
19:50	Amman, Larnaca (RJ)
20:00	Dhahran (RJ)
20:05	Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:15	Jeddah (RJ)
20:30	Dubai, Karachi (RJ)
20:45	Cairo (RJ)
21:10	Baghdad (RJ)

06:30	Amsterdam (KLM)	20:30	Dubai, Karachi (RJ)
07:00	Beirut (RJ)	21:10	Cairo (RJ)
			Baghdad (RJ)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Week's road accidents claim five lives

AMMAN (Petra) — Five people were killed and 81 injured in 167 road accidents in the country last week, according to the Public Security Department's Weekly Statistical bulletin. The bulletin said that 120 accidents took place in Amman resulting in 39 injuries while Ma'an had only two accidents and two injuries.

France honours cabinet advisor

AMMAN (Petra) — Mr. Peter Salah, advisor to the Jordanian cabinet, has been awarded on behalf of French President Francois Mitterrand an order of merit, rank of knight in appreciation of Mr. Salah's services to strengthen relations between France and Jordan.

Nabulsi approves construction projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Al Nabulsi Wednesday approved a contract for building a JD 138,000 stadium for Ramtha, the construction of supporting walls at Mahes at a cost of JD 9,500 and building a slaughter house at Karak at a cost of JD 26,785.

Jordan to take part in Arab-Greek talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is to take part in the Arab-Greek conference for economic cooperation scheduled to be held in Athens on March 18. The Jordanian ambassador in Athens will head the Jordanian delegation to the three-day conference.

Arab company to establish manufacturing industry

AMMAN (Petra) — A company to manufacture electricity generators will soon be established in Jordan as part of the Arab Company for Industrial Development (ACID), according to ACID Chairman of the Board of Directors Abdul Tawab Alnawash.

Mr. Hwaish was speaking in an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, after the opening of a two-day meeting for the company's board of directors on Wednesday.

ACID, one of the joint companies established under the umbrella of the Council of Arab Economic Unity aims to channel and coordinate Arab investment into various fields of industry, to ensure Arab industrial self-sufficiency and to prevent duplication in the establishment of industrial companies, he said.

The company's board of directors will discuss the company's activities and projects currently underway, in addition to financial, administrative and technical matters pertaining to its management, he said.



Large quantities of foreign cigarettes hidden in gas oil tank of one of the trucks seized by anti-smuggling patrols.

Customs officers outwit truck drivers

Authorities seize cigarettes smuggled in gasoline tanks

AMMAN (J.T.) — Anti-smuggling patrols have confiscated a large quantity of foreign cigarettes hidden in gasoline tanks of trucks operating on Jordan's external routes, according to sources at the Customs Department.

The sources said that each gasoline tank had been 'adapted' to carry 150 large cartons of Marlboro cigarettes.

The sources added that the trucks, whose number plates were not revealed, were impounded on orders from Customs Department Director General Adel Oudah.

The sources said that the customs patrols had found smuggled cigarettes being sold in the market and after investigations they established that the vendors received the contraband cigarettes from truck drivers working on external routes.

A preliminary follow up and investigation retrieved a few cartons of smuggled cigarettes, but when the trucks were brought to the department for thorough search cigarettes were found in oil tanks and inside seat which had the stuffing removed.

The sources added that anti-smuggling squads of the Customs Department some time ago discovered a quantity of gold being smuggled in Pepsi Cola cans, with each can containing 34 small pieces. The gold smugglers retrieved the gold after paying customs duties and fines.

Chinese construction minister, Nabulsi hold talks on fields of cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Chinese Minister of Urban and Rural Construction and Environmental Protection Rui Ningwen arrived here Wednesday on a one-day visit to Jordan. He held talks with Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Al Nabulsi and a number of officials with the aim of bolstering the existing cooperation between Jordan and China.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Rui hailed the existing cooperation and the relations of friendship linking the two countries and expressed his hope to strengthen these relations through exchanging visits between the two countries' officials and through coordination of the two countries' stands in international forums.

The guest minister was met upon his arrival at the airport by Mr. Nabulsi, the ministry's Under-Secretary Awad Al Tal and Chinese ambassador in Amman Huang Shixie.

Mr. Nabulsi said that existing Jordanian-Chinese cooperation in the field of housing and general construction projects is one of the fruits of the close ties linking the two countries. During his meeting with Mr. Rui, Mr. Nabulsi added that this cooperation took shape practically in the Abu Nsir housing project and in the construction of the Irbid sports city. Mr. Rui said that his country considers Jordan as one of its prominent friends and said that they look forward to expanding the

scope of cooperation to serve the interests of the two peoples.

Mr. Nabulsi explained Jordan's experience in the fields of local administration, city planning, environmental protection and housing. The Chinese minister also outlined his country's experience in these fields and extended an invitation to Mr. Nabulsi to visit China later.

The two sides agreed to draw up a working programme for the exchange of specialists in the fields of local administration, the environment, housing and city planning. They also agreed to exchange visits between officials of the two countries. Attending the meeting were Mr. Tal, Mr. Shixie and the delegation accompanying the guest minister.

Falangist militia leader revolts

(Continued from page 1) the Lebanese people... or take up arms against the authority of the state.

"These are the two threats that the Lebanese public opinion, especially the Christian community, reject absolutely," said the statement that was released by the palace press office and read over

all Beirut radio stations. It said a seven-man committee of Christian notable was set up to "work at closing Christian ranks, calm the situation and impress upon all the need for peaceful dialogue."

The statement warned, however, that the president "at any rate has the constitutional right

and powers to take the measures that safeguard Lebanon."

Mr. Geagea, 32, whose major power base is in Byblos, hails from a Maronite Catholic family that has long been dominant in the mountain town of Bsharr where the famous Lebanese-American poet and philosopher Kahlil Gibran was born.

"Furthermore, these forces may eventually be frustrated should their orientation and approach fail at least to put the region on the threshold to a just and durable peace."

The newspaper added "it may take the Reagan administration some time before a matching response is crystallised, but sooner or later the logic underlying the Egyptian proposals will emerge wor-

thy of serious consideration and appreciation."

In Damascus, a Syrian official, who refused to be named, said his government would have no comment on Mr. Mubarak's visit.

"Syria was never and in any way concerned with the initiative of Mubarak," he said. "Consequently, it is not concerned with subsequent developments."

U.S. creating explosive situation

(Continued from page 1)

would eventually support the Mubarak formula and warned that failure to do so would frustrate Arab moderates.

"Fundamentally missing in their (U.S.) reasoning is that the recent eminence of the forces of moderation in the region was by no means a smooth evolution," the newspaper said.

"Furthermore, these forces may eventually be frustrated should their orientation and approach fail at least to put the region on the threshold to a just and durable peace."

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Gorbachev meets world leaders

(Continued from page 1)

Thatcher and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, were due to meet Mr. Gorbachev later.

Many were due to continue bilateral talks they began Tuesday. Reporters who stood in the white-columned hall to watch Mr. Gorbachev greet leaders were struck by the difference between his style and that of Mr. Chernomir after the funeral of Yuri Andropov 13 months ago.

While the late leader appeared stiff and uneasy, Mr. Gorbachev's performance was relaxed, self-assured and animated.

Mr. Chernomir took 35 minutes to greet the line of dignitaries. Mr. Gorbachev gave them an hour.

A U.S. official has said in Washington that Mr. Bush carried a message from President Reagan

proposing a superpower summit in the United States.

A Reagan administration official who asked not to be identified, told the Associated Press Mr. Reagan did not list any conditions for a summit. The Reagan administration has said in the past that it would only agree to such talks if they held some prospects for success.

Mr. Bush met early Wednesday with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi before Mr. Chernomir's Red Square funeral.

Mr. Gorbachev appeared at his sterner shaking hands with leaders of countries whose relations with Moscow are less than cordial, among them President Zia Ul Haq of Pakistan and Imelda Marcos, wife of the Philippines president.

Like last year, the most theatrical appearance was made by

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

He held Mr. Gorbachev warmly by the arm and kissed Mr. Gromyko and Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov on both cheeks, the only visitor to do so.

Moscow stepped in to back Mr. Arafat and his supporters when Syria was supporting a takeover of the PLO by his hardline rivals in Lebanon in 1983.

Mr. Gorbachev spent little time in conversation with Western non-government political leaders, with the exception of Neil Kinnock, leader of the British Labour Party.

Mr. Kinnock accompanied Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and the other two opposition leaders, Social Democrat David Owen and Liberal leader David Steel.

Chernenko given hero's funeral

(Continued from page 1)

to full staff. The ceremony began when a black-and-red draped caisson carried Mr. Chernenko's coffin into the square at the head of a column of mourning relatives, Kremlin leaders and a military band playing a funeral dirge.

Officers carrying a huge black-and-white portrait of Mr. Chernenko preceded the funeral cortege. Some carried flags of the Soviet army, navy and air force and others held red cushions bearing Mr. Chernenko's medals.

The procession rolled to a halt before Lenin's tomb while Mr. Gorbachev and other politburo leaders climbed the mausoleum. Some of the Kremlin elite had marched behind the caisson on its half-hour trip into Red Square.

The opened coffin, covered in red and black crepe, was placed on low platform in front of the tomb, which sits near the base of the Kremlin's brick walls. Special guests, including visiting foreign leaders, were ranged in tribunes flanking the tomb, bundled under a heavy overcast against the minus-2 degree C (31°F) temperatures.

Mr. Gorbachev, wearing a gray Persian lamb hat and donning his gold-rimmed reading glasses, opened the ceremony with a eulogy to the man who had served for only 13 months when he died Sunday at age 73.

"At this hour of grief, Soviet men and women are paying their deep respects to a faithful servant of our party and people, a staunch champion of the ideals of communism," said Mr. Gorbachev, the youngest Soviet leader in six decades.

Mr. Gorbachev said Mr. Chernenko was "associated with major initiatives aimed at ending

the arms race and eliminating the threat of a global nuclear holocaust."

"Our party and state will continue to increase their efforts in this direction, doing everything to preserve peace," he said.

The new leader then moved aside for a speech by Viktor V. Grishin, a party leader and member of the politburo, who was followed to the microphone by Soviet officials and specially designated workers.

Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov, 79, stood to the left of Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Grishin stood to his right.

Flanking them were Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, 75, and Grigory Romanov, 62, a politburo member who had been regarded as a main rival of Mr. Gorbachev.

Only two places away from Mr. Gorbachev stood the chief of the KGB security police, Viktor Chebrikov, 61, a non-voting member of the politburo who is regarded as a leading candidate for promotion to full membership.

To Mr. Gromyko's left stood Ukrainian party leader Vladimir Shcherbitsky, 67, who cut short a visit to the United States because of Mr. Chernenko's death.

The cobblestoned expanse was filled by Soviet soldiers, citizens and politicians as well as visiting dignitaries, Moscow-based diplomats and a crowd of foreign journalists.

Small portraits of Mr. Chernenko bordered in red and black bobbed above the heads of the crowd in the square as the funeral procession filed past.

On state television, presenter Igor Korotkov, who had broken the news of Mr. Chernenko's death to the Soviet people on Monday, praised the late leader as a "patriot

and internationalist" and listed his official decorations.

All the Communist Party leaders of the Soviet Union's East European allies were at the funeral.

Dozens of leaders of Western and neutral countries also attended the funeral. President Reagan was represented by Vice President George Bush. Among leaders present were French President Francois Mitterrand, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Other dignitaries including Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany and Canadian leader Brian Mulroney also attended the funeral.

Mrs. Thatcher and Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone were among the first foreign dignitaries to pay last respects to Mr. Chernenko.

Mrs. Thatcher was accompanied by Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and Ambassador Sir Iain Sutherland when she laid wreaths from Queen Elizabeth and the British public.

State television showed foreign heads of state laying wreaths at Mr. Chernenko's bier.

African leaders included Presidents Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola and Samora Moises Machel of Mozambique, both countries friendly to the Soviet Union.

Yasser Arafat and Sam Njoma, leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), also paid their last respects.

They were followed by French President Francois Mitterrand and Italian President Sandro Pertini.

Haute couture sets the style with simple, sophisticated lines

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — With a combination of beauty, grace, elegance and plasticity, 12 professional models from France Tuesday started a two-day presentation of French fashions at the French ambassador's residence in Amman.

Under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, six leading Paris-based fashion houses presented the spring-summer 1985 collection as well as the winter fur collection of 1985, which are designed by Pierre Balmain, Christian Dior, Givenchy, Guy Laroche, Jean-Louis Scherrer and Yves Saint Laurent.

The proceeds of the show, which is organised by Mrs. De Sedouy, wife of the French ambassador to Jordan in collaboration with Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines and Marriott Hotel in Amman will go to the benefit of Al-Husseini Society for The Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped, according to Mr. De Sedouy, the French Ambassador in Amman. Mr. De Sedouy told the Jordan Times that he hoped such a fashion show parade will raise enough money for such a charitable society that is taking care of 120 handicapped patients and students.

However, the fashion show, which attracted more than 300 ladies, started with modern music accompanying the models appearance with music emphasising grandeur and style in every move.

The exclusive fur collection of Christian Dior and Pierre Balmain designed in cheerful light yellow, light blue, black and white was



The sleek, sophisticated look for evenings (Petra photo)

portrayed in fur collection of coats and jackets.

However, the main line of 1985's spring-summer designs had very tight cuts, straight lines and just above the knee length. It was obvious that accessories of earrings, necklaces, rings and bracelets are highly in fashion for this year's collection designed with the diamonds, pearls and metal.

The hair styles as presented were either very short hair cuts (A la garçon) the carree hair style, or just normal loose hair styles. However, a lot of hair accessories of ribbons and hair bangs with different design. The make-up colours that were used by the models were shades of orange, yellow-gold and light brown colours.

Women's new looks in Christian Dior fashions were feminine yet structured and relaxed. The dresses had yellow, white and black colours. Some of these cre-

ations looked as if they were paintings of the famous artist Miro, with their subtle drawings and attractive technique. However, Christian Dior's evening dresses had a classical elegance in their lines: the main colours were mauve against white, yellow against white and classical elegant white long dresses with silver embroidery and expensive fabrics.

The Givenchy fashions for women in its 1985 spring-summer collection were simple yet elegant. The main colours Givenchy used for the morning and afternoon were a mixture of red, green, white, navy blue and black. The light dresses were extremely elegant and creative where Givenchy used mainly bright yellow, white, and a combination of both.

The night dresses had a lot of sequined cloth, filled with stars and golden embroidery.

Jean-Louis Scherrer's fashions

for the morning and afternoon dresses used rose, light-gray, black and white colours. Jean-Louis Scherrer presented a lot of tight knee length skirts with three-quarter long jackets reaching 4 centimetres above the skin length. His night collection was extremely creative, fresh and elegant where he used yellow, green, white and red. However, his fashion also used a lot of large belts that rested on the models' waists.

Givenchy's night fashions used a lot of silver embroidery around the neck. Pierre Balmain stressed on trills in his light dresses for both, the afternoon and evening dresses. Some of his collection was inspired by Spanish traditional dresses, which made his collection obviously very elegant, simple and chic.

He used white, a combination of yellow and black as well as a combination of rose and yellow. Moreover, Yves Saint Laurent's fashion line for the spring-summer 1985's collection was a coordination of mauve, pink, green, yellow and white. His evening dresses had sophisticated lines and cuts, with large pieces of cloth draped around the waist

which in turn form a huge butterfly ribbon.

Guy Laroche women fashions represented simplicity prevailed with a very individual style. His colours for the morning and afternoon dresses were: white, orange, rose and black. However, the evening dresses had luxurious silver embroideries of the neck and waist lines with the navy-blue, turquoise, a combination of pink and white and black and rose in expensive cloth of tulle and silk.

Despite the fact of this diverse collection of skirts, suits and evening dresses, the fashion houses also presented elegant trousers and trouser suits in black colours with elegant cuts and straight length to reach below the ankle.

At the end of the fashion show, the 12 models were elegantly standing in the middle of the hall with a different body posture and standing at different levels resulted in a beautiful scene.

However, credit should be given to Mr. Bernard Trux and Mr. Norbert Schmitt, who participated in commenting on each fashion collection and who organised the whole setting area and the music.

Academy of Arabic president returns from Cairo conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Dr. Abdul Karim Khalifeh, president of the Jordan Academy of Arabic (JAA) Wednesday returned to Amman after representing the JAA at the annual conference of the Arab Academy in Cairo.

The conference announced certain recommendations focusing on changing some of the scientific terminology in various sciences, suggesting the Arabisation of university syllabi and the revision of some language problems related

to the huge dictionary which the Cairo academy is currently preparing.

The conference also suggested that a committee for translation should be set up in all Arab countries, whose responsibility would be to translate scientific books and periodicals.

The conference decided to convene its next session in Amman to discuss the scientific terminology which the JAA presented during the conference.

Salt Municipality starts work on Sawada sports complex

SALT (Petra) — Salt Municipality Tuesday embarked on implementing the first stage of a sports city for Salt at Sawada area. The sports city is a complex that will include a multi purpose ground, closed halls, artificial lakes, gardens, car parks and other utilities.

The sports city will be built on a 70 dunum area of land purchased by the municipality at a cost of JD 200,000. The municipality has received JD 180,000 in contributions to build the sports city which will be set up in nine months, a municipality spokesman said. He added that the total cost of the project is expected to reach JD 500,000 including the price of the land.

IDB agrees to assist sixth education project

AMMAN (Petra) — A preliminary agreement was reached Wednesday between Jordan and the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB) under which the IDB will cover part of the expenses of setting up 16 secondary schools in Amman.

The source added that the cost of these projects is expected to reach a total of \$122 billion, out of which \$40 million will be covered by the World Bank.

The IDB delegation also conducted series of talks which centred on financing a number of development projects currently under construction including the primary housing project for Yarmouk University for both staff and students which will cost JD 28 million.

Representatives of the IDB left Amman Wednesday, at the end of a visit to Jordan which lasted several days.

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Humanitarian appeal

THE UNITED Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) has just said that it plans no immediate cuts in its services to Palestinian refugees. But, expressing itself in the words of UNRWA Commissioner General Olof Rydbeck, the agency cautioned that it may be forced to do so if it fails to offset its 1985 budget deficit before May of this year. However, there were encouraging signs in Mr. Rydbeck's statements before a press conference here on Monday. He said that contacts by UNRWA with foreign nations, especially the European Community, to raise more contributions are underway, and he said that he was optimistic that the agency's envoys will come away with increased contributions to help it pursue its humanitarian mission in the Middle East. Mr. Rydbeck also said that the stand of both Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) vis-a-vis UNRWA and its operations, was helpful and deeply appreciated. Both have supported the agency to seek further contributions and are, helping UNRWA's role in this respect, according to the commissioner general.

In the past, deficits in UNRWA's budgets — very big in some cases — did not deal the agency a blow strong enough to force it to reduce its services to the Palestinian refugees. UNRWA — now faced with a deficit of \$27 million — had been successful in the past in securing sufficient funds to keep its operations going. We appreciate what UNRWA has been doing to reduce its expenses in order to meet urgent and more important needs. But to think of reducing the volume of services as Mr. Rydbeck had suggested would be most unfortunate. We are pleased to learn that educational services will be the least affected and the last to be cut as this would mean laying off great numbers of teachers and closing some of UNRWA's schools. Such a move would obviously harm Jordan and the Palestinians at a time when the country is receiving shrinking financial aid from richer Arab states, and when unemployment has been emerging in the country as a serious and most disturbing fact. We most sincerely hope that Rydbeck will employ the most successful and positive of methods in dealing with the present crisis, and so ensure a continuation of UNRWA's humanitarian mission until a lasting settlement for the Palestinian problem has been found.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Enhancing Jordanian-Soviet friendship

A MESSAGE of congratulations by King Hussein to the new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev reflected the keenness of Jordan on promoting the ties of fruitful cooperation between the two countries. The message expressed Jordan's deep appreciation of the Soviet Union's stand in support of the Arab just causes and Moscow's role in helping to bring about stability and peace to the Middle East.

The King said the friendly ties between Jordan and the Soviet Union are meant to serve the common interests, and to further help promote cooperation in various fields. He said that Jordan looks forward to further Soviet support for the national and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland, and stressed that the Soviet role is urgently required following years of failure on the part of world nations to achieve a just peace.

As we witness continued Israeli acts of aggression on our nation, we look towards the Soviet Union for assistance in fending off this danger. We also share with the Soviet people their sorrow and grief on the death of President Chernenko and hope that the Soviet people will achieve more progress and prosperity under its new leadership.

Al Dustour: New smelling gesture

THE UNITED States used its veto at the U.N. Security Council Tuesday to kill a Lebanese resolution condemning Israeli criminal practices in South Lebanon. The veto and continued U.S. support and help to Israel in its aggression on the Arab countries came as no surprise, since Washington has always been backing Israel in its criminal actions against the Arab people.

The United States resorted to the veto to prevent the world community from condemning Israel's actions against Lebanon, at a time when it realises that the whole world has realised the true nature of the Zionists and their criminal actions against the innocent civilian population. The veto was a form of backing to the neo-Nazis and an encouragement to their crimes against humanity.

The veto was expected to come from an ally of the Israeli aggressors and those who supply them with all means to perpetuate their acts of aggression. The United States has no more cares to hide its open support for the Zionists because it is their staunch ally. However, we can blame ourselves for the present situation because the United States, through its open support for Israel, does not fear a reprisal from the Arab Nation. But, nevertheless, the U.S. financial, material and military aid to Israel can only augment the wrath in the hearts of the Arab people everywhere.

Sawt Al Shaab: Iran escalates civilian shelling

ONCE AGAIN the United Nations steps in to try to put an end to the shelling of population areas on both sides of the Gulf war front, and we support an end to such shelling that costs the two countries heavy human losses. But we also support Iraq's views and endeavours for a comprehensive solution to the conflict and a total end to the war.

Solving side issues like the shelling of populated regions in Iraq and Iran will not solve the problem. Iraq wants a total peace because partial solutions can only help to keep the war going on in a different form. It is a just stand that should be supported by the Arab countries which do not want to see Iraq take the initiative in a way that can secure its own interests.

The past few years have seen Iran imposing on the Gulf region the tankers crisis, the mining of water ways, the mass execution of Iraqi prisoners of war and the shelling of Iraqi cities. Iran seems to choose its own ways to inflict a diversion of the course of events away from the real nature of conflict in the Gulf by picking up marginal issues and imposing them on others. There is no real target except to deceive the world and perpetuate the fighting in the Gulf.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

Secret missions: Walters clear on Mideast politics

By Franz Schurmann

THE U.S. has a new ambassador to the U.N. He is Colonel Vernon Walters. But the military title should not make one think he is a military man. He has for many years been a diplomat specialising in secret diplomacy. He went on many secret missions always at the command of whoever was president. The last mission we know of was to Havana in 1982 to meet with Fidel Castro.

He speaks eight languages, of which Russian is one. He is most fluent in Spanish and Portuguese and so we can expect that Latin America will be a key concern of his. But in talking to reporters — which he never did very much — he commented that he had always stayed clear of Middle Eastern politics, and implied he would

continue to do so.

Since Vernon Walters is such an experienced diplomat, we can presume that he did not choose his words lightly. Consider his predecessor, Jeane Kirkpatrick. She was blatantly pro-Israel, and surrounded herself with pro-Zionists.

So Col. Walters would seem to be saying his views on the Middle East are blank and he intends to leave them that way.

Does that make any difference? A little bit. The position of U.S. ambassador to the U.N. was always mainly propagandistic. In fact, the entire U.N. is one vast forum for propaganda. Few people are swayed by propaganda any more, but the kind of propaganda a country engages in can reflect

policy views of its government.

The appointment of Col. Walters to succeed Mrs. Kirkpatrick can be interpreted as a shift away from the strong pro-Israeli views that prevailed in Washington when Mr. Reagan first came into office in 1981.

The shift... painfully slow and even illusory as it must appear to many Arabs... is nevertheless real. The Reagan administration made a historic turn in attitude at the time of the Israeli siege of west Beirut. The Israelis were prepared to level west Beirut to the ground and annihilate the PLO. Washington could easily have allowed it to happen. But it did not. Why not?

As in the late 1960's, Was-

hington feared that if the Israelis had achieved their goal, the rest of the Arab World would once again have swung towards the Soviet Union, or fallen to revolutionary waves, or disintegrated into internal strife all of which Washington would have seen as dangerous to U.S. interests.

Mr. Reagan himself, though pressured by pro-Zionists, finally realised the U.S. could not afford to lose the Arabs. From that time on, the Reagan administration had been inching away from Israel, and Israel had been using every trick it can find to slow down the drift.

But what does it matter that the U.S. is drifting away from Israel? Col. Walters, in that same press interview, said he saw no solution to the Middle

Eastern dilemma. Congress is getting ready to heap vast new sums of money on Israel. The killing goes on in Lebanon. Palestinians continue to be oppressed in Palestine.

In the world of diplomacy what counts is relations among governments. In 1981, pro-Zionists sought to push Mr. Reagan into a policy which would have made Israel the chief U.S. ally in the Middle East and sought to split the Arab nations into "friendly" and "hostile." Syria, Libya, and the PLO were the chief hostiles. Egypt and Saudi Arabia were the chief friends. Iraq was a hostile but preoccupied with the war with Iran.

The Reagan administration

has dropped that approach. Washington has halted all denunciations of Syria, and even the vituperation against Libya has ceased. And despite Israeli displeasure, the U.S. resumed diplomatic relations with Iraq.

The strongest thing the Arabs could do now is to generate unity amongst themselves, despite all the tragic bickering of the past. If unity came to Lebanon despite all the plots to disrupt it, then the cause of the Arabs, including the Palestinians, would start to go up. Such unity would encourage the cautious Reagan to go one or two or three steps further to terminate the stranglehold Israel for so long has had on U.S. policies and actions.



Mighty Caspar after arms makers' fraud?

Robert Trautman
Reuter

WASHINGTON — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger is serious about his announced crackdown on alleged fraud by major arms makers but some firms may be too vital to America's security to take on, military analysts say.

Mr. Weinberger's uphill effort to win another big increase in arms spending from Congress at a time of record federal budget deficits has been hurt by disclosures of huge overcharging for items ranging from hammers to toilet seats. Now his credibility has been dealt a further setback by disclosures that defence contractors are billing the government for what they call "overhead" costs such as country club dues and political donations.

Mr. Weinberger said this week he was freezing \$40 million in payments to General Dynamics, the biggest U.S. military contractor, for costs related indirectly to weapons production while he looks into possible improper billings.

He also said he had asked the Justice Department to look into possible criminal violations by the firm's executives.

But if General Dynamics is found guilty of wrongdoing, Defence Department and private analysts say, Mr. Weinberger can do little beyond "wrist-slapping".

The firm is the sole supplier of vital items such as M1 Abrams tanks and Trident nuclear submarines and the Pentagon needs it, they told Reuters.

The toughest penalty the Pentagon can impose on one of its contractors is suspension or debarment — forbidding it to do any more business with the Defence Department.

The Pentagon last year suspended or debarred 454 firms, up from 317 the year before and 78 four years ago.

But the military analysts said debarment would be a drastic step to take against a major defence firm even if it were found to be grossly defrauding the government.

Asking where else the Pentagon could get tanks and nuclear sub-

marines, they said debarment could hurt U.S. security as much as the firm.

They say General Dynamics made billings last year of \$7.2 billion for arms from missiles to fighter planes and submarines.

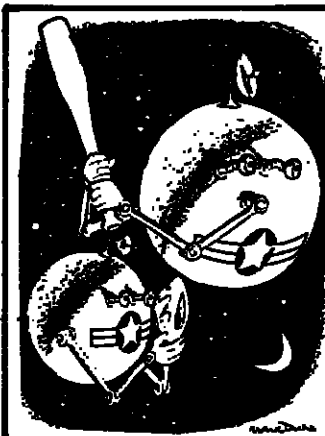
Mr. Weinberger's action followed a congressional hearing which included testimony that General Dynamics had billed the Pentagon for "overhead" costs such as corporate entertainment and personal expenses.

These included boarding an executive's dog, country club dues and golfing weekends.

"We found the General Dynamics testimony was nauseating," Pentagon spokesman Michael Burch said, adding that "some of the claims that were made were preposterous and completely out of line and in no way benefited national security."

General Dynamics issued a statement saying it believed it would be able to satisfy the Pentagon's concerns and would withdraw all claims found not to be "bona fide".

Mr. Weinberger, in announcing



what Mr. Burch later termed a "get tough" policy, said the probe of claims for overcharges by other arms makers would also come under department scrutiny.

Earlier in the week the Boeing company, a major manufacturer of planes, missiles and electronic equipment, halved a claim to the Pentagon of \$126,000 for contributions it made to political candidates.

"We'll see if the auditors accept that," Mr. Burch said.

West expects tough rows on space in Geneva

By Christopher Hanson
Reuter

LONDON — The Soviet Union has set a precedent which Western diplomats hope will help towards progress in nuclear and space talks opening this week.

Diplomats expect the superpower talks in Geneva to be long and gruelling, with space defences an especially difficult issue. But they are encouraged that Moscow has agreed to let international inspectors into its territory to check civil nuclear plants.

The Kremlin had hinted before that it might accept foreign inspectors to help monitor compliance with arms accords, but this is the first time it has actually given permission for a programme of on-site inspections.

Moscow said last month it would allow the U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to check certain power plants to verify that nuclear fuel is not being diverted for weapons — a procedure the Kremlin had shunned since the global nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) was signed in 1968.

Safeguards against cheating on arms pacts will be a thorny problem in the Geneva talks. Soviet resistance to Western proposals for inspections has been a sticking point in East-West negotiations for 30 years.

But Western diplomats and private analysts say Moscow's acceptance of the principle of inspections has potentially important implications for Geneva, even though the Soviet government has not said publicly how many of its 3 nuclear installations it will open up.

"The Soviet decision provides a precedent and is a very big advance," said Professor John Erickson of the University of Edinburgh, one of Britain's leading experts on the Kremlin.

U.S. negotiators are now in a stronger position to press for inspections of nuclear weapons stockpiles. A British diplomat who specialises in arms control said in an interview.

He said the Soviet decision was like the thin end of a wedge but prying open the door to workable agreements would be a difficult task, given Moscow's long history of military secrecy.

Some Western arms control analysts question the decision's relevance for Geneva and view it as image-polishing prior to a September conference at which the NPT's 120 signatories will review the treaty's effectiveness.

Britain and the United States have long since agreed to on-site inspections for industrial nuclear plants.

Analysts with a more hopeful interpretation point out that Moscow's decision was in line with earlier Soviet suggestions that inspectors might be allowed in certain situations.

Moscow has said it might permit inspectors at checkpoints to monitor troop withdrawals from central Europe if they are agreed at the 19-nation Vienna force reduction talks.

At the 40-nation disarmament conference in Geneva, the Kremlin has said it is ready to sign a convention banning chemical weapons which includes limited on-site verification — a "challenge" system of inspections if cheating is suspected.

Georgy Arbatov, a high Soviet official, joined 15 other members of an Independent Commission on Disarmament which in 1982 accepted the idea of on-site verification in general terms.

Western diplomats are unsure how seriously to take these Kremlin hints. More often, Moscow has insisted that spy satellites, sensors and radars operated by each country are sufficient monitors.

Satellites, which can pick out very small objects on the ground, have been used to police the SALT-1 and the unratified SALT-2 U.S.-Soviet Strategic Arms Limitation Treaties.

But President Reagan has said SALT-2 — which both superpowers say they are abiding by — was "fatally flawed" because it lacked provisions for checks on the ground.

Satellites do have their limits. They are unable to tell, for instance, whether small, pilotless cruise missiles are carrying nuclear or conventional warheads.

Nor can they detect cruises tucked away inside ships.

Human inspectors could help plug some monitoring gaps.

But there are limits to what human and automated policing could achieve, as shown by Mr.

Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) — now in the research stage — aimed at creating a space-based shield against nuclear missiles.

SDI is on the table in Geneva, but Washington says it will not agree to limits on space weapons research, in part because it would be impossible to monitor what goes on behind closed laboratory doors. Moscow insists that progress on cutting nuclear arms will only be possible if SDI is scrapped.

Some Western analysts argue that, due to inherent limits on the potential to pin down cheating, the superpowers should not demand absolute safeguards. Former British Prime Minister James Callaghan called recently for "a veritable percentage of trust in each other's intentions."

Two Geneva lines, will they converge?

By Svyatoslav Kozlov

THE NEARER the date when the new Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms were to begin, the more noticeable has become the demarcation of social forces coming out in support of the delineated lines of the sides. Moreover, the polarisation is taking place both nationally and on a world scale, leaving no one indifferent anywhere.

This process attests to a realisation of the global significance of the forthcoming dialogue. First of all, both sides are going to speak not only on their own behalf and — at least the Soviet Union — not only in narrow national interests. Both sides have the backing of their allies with whom all the basic aims and positions are being agreed upon for the talks. But, apart from that, the understanding of the major influence of this dialogue on the fate of all mankind attracts to it the close attention of the world's nations and causes their wish to assist as much as they can such a holding of the talks as the absolute majority of people would like to see, the achievement of the aims enunciated in the joint statement.

To recall: The sides agreed that the topic of discussion would be a set of questions relating to space and nuclear arms, both strategic and medium-range, and that all these questions would be examined and solved as one package. The talks would seek to work out effective agreements directed at preventing an arms race in space and discontinuing that on earth, to limiting and reducing nuclear arms and to fortifying strategic stability.

Invisibly present behind the delegations sitting in Geneva will be masses of people belonging to different nationalities, religions, walks of life, sex and age. It is their representatives — concerned scientists, doctors, cultural figures, working people and college and even school students — that are holding demonstrations, issuing declarations and writing letters to the heads of the states engaged in the dialogue. And this is not to be wondered at, as they all associate their hopes for the future, indeed for their very survival, with the success of these talks.

Yet in the light of recent events and the speeches by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and his close associates, the world public is increasingly beginning to see that considerable divergences exist in the approach of the two powers to the issues to be discussed. The Soviet line has been one of a continued and firm struggle to terminate the arms race and promote disarmament through freezing, limiting and reducing the present military arsenals, especially those of nuclear arms, and averting the extension of this race to outer space.

The other, U.S. line, expressed in the formula "to arm in order to disarm," is actually aimed at carrying on the race, including the opening of its new, outer space channel.

And whereas vast masses of people who are defending their most important right, the right to life, support the first line of real disarmament, the American line, which infringes upon this right, is only being backed by organisations such as the Committee on the Present Danger and the military-industrial complex lobbyists within the country, and outside it by revanchist elements in West Germany and Japan and by their anti-Soviet and anti-socialist counterparts elsewhere.

Over the past four years of work in accordance with the Soviet Peace Programme, the USSR has been most loyal to the foreign-policy platform worked out by the 26th Communist Party Congress for the 1980s. Remaining pertinent in all its parts, provisions and suggestions, this programme has as its core the curbing of the arms race, the prevention of nuclear war and the reinforcement of peace and international security.

Over the last five-year period, two conventions of the U.S. Republican Party have taken place. Dominant at them, also in a consistent way, was only one general line, the line of consolidating the offensive military power of the USA, maintaining the position of strength and counting on the achievement of military superiority over the USSR.

The illusoriness of such an intention has been authoritatively pointed out on more than one occasion. "The Soviet Union has been consistently coming out against all attempts to upset the existing military balance. We are for a drastic cut in the armories of nuclear and conventional weapons on the basis of parity and equal security, for general and complete disarmament and for the liquidation of nuclear arms". The late head of the Soviet state Konstantin Chernenko once again confirmed this stand of the USSR in his replies to the leaders of Argentina's movement "The Appeal of 100 in the Name of Life".

At the same time, the USSR is sharply critical of distortions of the understanding fixed in the joint communiqué on talks, of everything that can hinder dialogue and the attainment of mutually acceptable agreements.

Peace-loving people see and understand ever better why the USSR has decisively sided with all the movements coming out for the termination of the arms race and for disarmament; they are endorsing and supporting this line — A.P.N.

The writer is a retired major general of the Soviet army and a world news analyst for Novosti Press Agency.

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Widad Kavar: 350 Palestinian and Jordanian ethnic dresses

Seeking to institutionalise heritage preservation

By Suzanne Zu'mut-Black

AS A GROWING girl, Widad Irani was thrilled by a present she received from a neighbour in Bethlehem: a complete woman's traditional costume of that town. She was hooked. Now, more than 30 years later, Widad, Kavar by marriage, is the proud owner of 350 Palestinian and Jordanian ethnic dresses, many complete with their accessories and jewelry, and some dating back to the nineteenth century.

Although her collection now includes items that fully represent all the areas in the West and East Banks, ("a bit weak in North Palestine," she admits) Widad is still kept busy, mainly as a source of information. She is currently writing a book in the form of a catalogue "to help people identify what they have and to render some information."

The book will include lots of pictures in colour. Widad, photographer and model, with suitcases of costumes and jewelry, make trips to Jordanian villages, that provide the illustrations with a genuine background.

To authenticate her work, Widad has established a relationship with museums round the world, especially the Museum of Mankind, a section of the British Museum in London. "I have been working with them on the subject since 1967, collecting and verifying information," she explained to the reporter. Widad attributes her grasp of the scientific method of interviewing for collecting information to her work with Shelagh Weir of the British Museum, who published the booklet "Palestine embroidery".

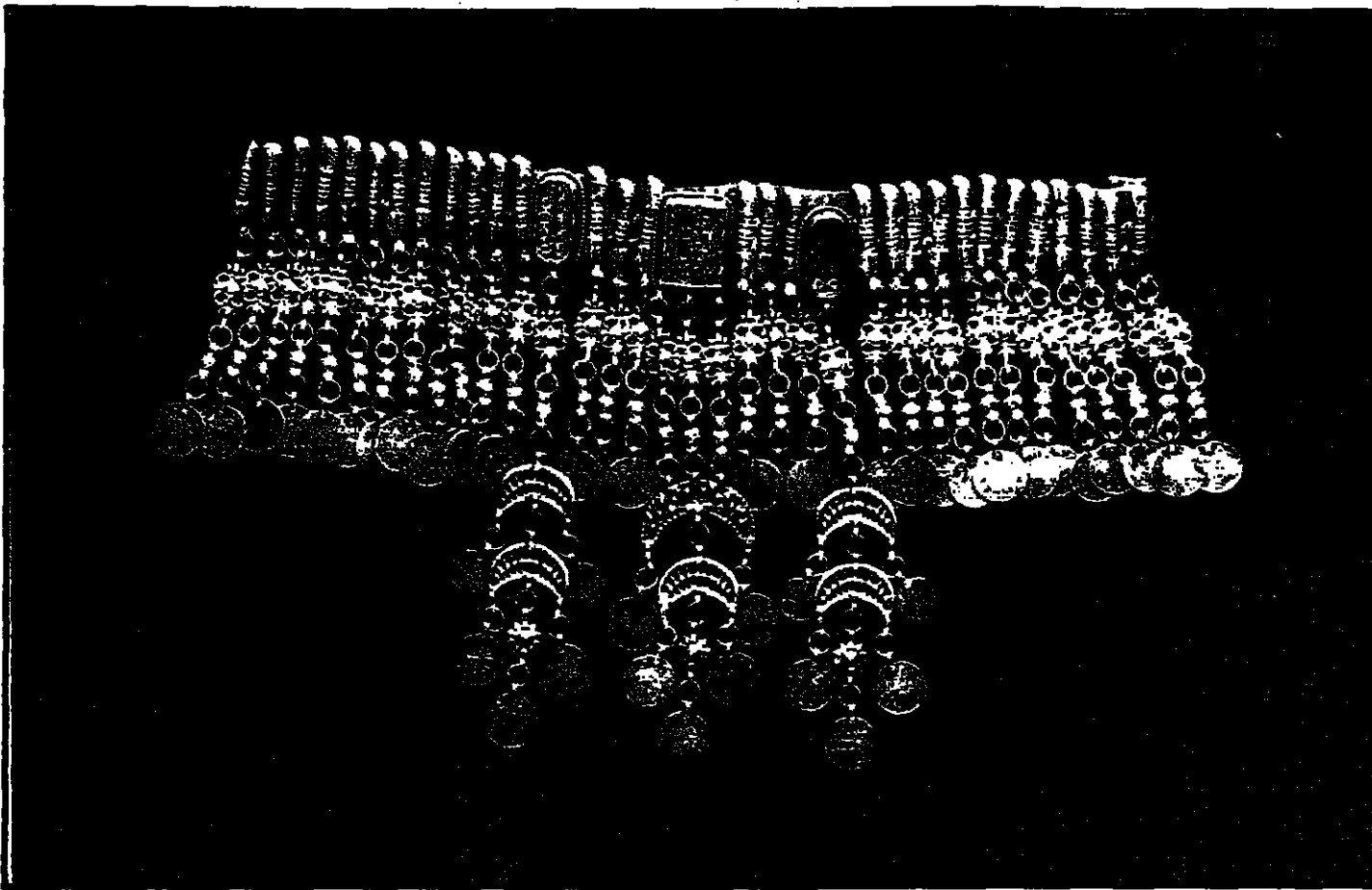
A representative part of the collection has already been documented, "but there is much more to be done," moaned Widad. "I need somebody to work with me, otherwise I get very isolated."

Another current pre-occupation of Widad's is finding ways of preserving and maintaining the items she possesses. At the moment, they are mostly stacked on shelves in her basement. A filing cabinet and a desk in the same room comprise her office. "I have been in touch with world museums trying to find ways of preventing decay," she said, adding that she had offered to give costumes on loan to museums. "This will assure good maintenance as well as acquaint people with the items," she explained. Widad was surprised that the first response to her offer should come from East Germany. Other acceptances followed from London and Paris.

Museums also often contact her about pieces they already have, asking her to identify them. "I bring back to life a dead costume thrown in their basement," she said with a sense of achievement.

Locally, however, Widad does not intend to use her dresses in fashion shows as she used to, to raise funds for charity. Although a loss to the general public, she is forced to stop that to preserve the pieces.

Nevertheless, with the help of museums, 55 complete attires have been chosen to represent the collection and sent abroad to be exhibited. They have already been shown in Kuwait, Beirut, London and Vienna. A major disappointment that Widad experienced last year was the last



Al Qirdan is worn by brides in Karak and Hebron (W. Kavar collection)

minute cancellation of an exhibit planned for last June in the Textile Museum in Washington, arranged for by the Jordan Society. She had prepared for it all last year until it was dropped for "lack of funds."

Widad has been involved in many publications on the subject in Arab and foreign magazines or contributions. But the most striking by far in colour and expanse is a hard cover volume on Palestinian embroidery produced by a big Japanese publishing house. The book is one of a series aiming to introduce Arab culture to the Japanese. The issue consists mainly of excellent reproductions of the traditional embroidery adorning the dresses in Widad's collection with brief commentary in Japanese. The book also runs commentary in English which is Widad's contribution. Most appropriately, the work is entitled: "Costumes Dyed by the Sun."

One disappointing and often infuriating aspect that Widad has been experiencing, especially in the Arabic press, is the lack of acknowledgement of her material and its misrepresentation out of context. For example, one issue of the women's magazine "Say-edar" published uncredited photographs of two head dresses from Widad's collection of the Ramallah area used to illustrate an article on the silver industry in Tunis. Another magazine, AL-DOHA—running an article, entitled "Thieves of Heritage", has used nine photographs of her costumes, again all without attributions. Widad's latest and most substantial acquisition in this line is a large volume entitled: Costumes and Customs From The Arab World. She stumbled on the book, costing JD 33, at one Amman bookshop only to find out while leafing through it that scores of pictures of jewelry, weaving and costumes were from her own collection and from Shalagh Weir's book "The Bedouin". Once more: no acknowledgement and wrong information.

Widad started working on

her collection in full force only after the 1967 war, when, the now refugee peasant women of the occupied West Bank were selling their costumes right and left. "Until then, I had felt that I could go to that area any time, and now it was all scattered. I felt the urgent need to make a collection when the styles were still genuine and not affected by other factors," she expounded, pointing out that the post-67 war era brought a culture rather than a town or village identity.

Academic value

Although the commercial value of her collection is great, its worth as a source of information for anthropology, economics and culture is perhaps more important. While collecting the items, Widad carried out extensive interviews concentrating more on the older women, some of whom are now dead. She asked questions to find out about the bride's trousseau: where the pieces were bought, how much they cost, who embroidered, who helped, where the fabric was woven, what kind of dyes were used, the names of the patterns, where the accessories were bought, who made them, when all this was worn for the first time, and how often it was worn after that. She also inquired about the mother's and mother-in-law's costumes, which took her back to the 1800s.

Widad also gathered information about the occasions when these dresses were worn, such as the wedding procedures, and entertainment, including the food. She learnt for example that one dish was made for the couple to eat alone in their room.

One aspect that kept emerging throughout the investigations and that impressed Widad tremendously was the peasant woman's high standard of craftsmanship, colour and taste although she had a heavy burden of work. Furthermore, for her all this information underlined one fact: These peasants had a deeply-rooted and rich heritage that existed for centuries in their villages. Widad pointed out that the

dress with all its accessories formed a kind of passport or identity with one's own town or village, thus serving as a national factor. All this money spent on clothing was, besides, a high indicator of the peasant woman's importance and worth in society. "Everybody in the family clearly needs her," Widad asserted.

Eventually, another major revelation dawned from the gathered facts. It was the similarities in heritage between all the Arab countries in general, and, more particularly, between the East and West Banks. Besides the common customs, habits, and ways of life, the dresses themselves bear great resemblance to each other. For example, the "shursh", a dress made of black fabric with white embroidery. Similarly, a costume with the likeness of that worn in Ma'an shares the same colours and fabric in its dress-green and red silk-with Lifta in the Jerusalem area. Furthermore, the Salti dress—very long and worn in many folds—is also common to the Jordan Valley and Jericho.

The same closeness appeared in the silver jewelry as was the case with Hebron and Karak, which share the "qirdan"—one big necklace made of small pieces. "Until recently, I had been working on the differences," says Widad, "but this stimulates me to work on common factors."

It is this later inclination that led Widad to seek other Arab collectors of cultural items. They all also seem to share the same feelings of isolation and lack of backing from organisations or governments. "We have been used but not protected," protested Widad, referring to an incident where a suitcase of hers containing five complete costumes was lost at an official department, never to be accounted or compensated for.

So, Widad has yet another channel to follow in her pursuits in the field of heritage and culture, triggered by that one dress long ago in Bethlehem. As she sees it at the moment, it will be a collector's conference involving her already-established contacts in Kuwait, Egypt, Iraq and Lebanon "to

exchange ideas, publications, get to know each other, share and get out of this isolation."

Rich personal history

Most of Widad's childhood was spent in Jerusalem, where she was born, Bethlehem, where her father, Jalil Irani, was inspector of reformatory schools, and Ramallah, where she was a boarding student at the Friends School. At seventeen, she joined the Beirut University College (BUC) (known then as the Beirut College for Women) where she majored in education and Arab history. She then moved on to the American University of Beirut (AUB) to do graduate work, finishing in 1955, 43 years after her father graduated from there. He is the oldest AUB alumnus in Jordan.

A brief teaching career ended with her marriage in 1955 to Kamel Kavar, who brought her to Amman, where she has lived ever since with the exception of two years which the family spent in the United States. The husband was to pursue his studies there, and Widad grabbed the opportunity to do some studying herself attending courses in home economics and anthropology at Arizona University, not deterred by two infant daughters at the time. With all her children now



Widad Kavar



Wedding hat worn in the Hebron area (W. Kavar collection)

grown up and independent, (Zeena and Rima, the two eldest, now married, and Amin and Mary, at university in the U.S.), Widad finds she has more time to concentrate on her work. The children themselves have shown interest in the collection, although to varying degrees. They have been able to show items to guests and even to arrange shows when their mother is too busy with other things. It is obviously the youngest, Mary, who is the keenest. She is now specialising in anthropology and Arab studies. Widad's husband, a collector and avid photographer himself, has provided a lot of encouragement and practical help such as taking photographs of the costumes. The couple's home, in its architecture and interior decoration, reflects their common interest in Arab heritage...

Randa Habibi's Corner

Wake up and look around

BASRA HAD to be bombed, innocent victims had to die and films showing mutilated corpses of children and women had to be seen, for us to notice it. Well, it is true, there is a war between Iran and Iraq, a war that has been going on for three years, no, four; in September it will be five. A war that has killed more people than we can count and yet a forgotten one.

One gets used to catastrophes, wars in our part of the world do not surprise anyone. Lebanon and the wounded south, Beirut with its exploding charges; attacks and kidnappings that have become so natural that no one even blinks anymore. We do not feel anything when we read about 80 deaths in a treacherous explosion or manslaughter of 24 people carried out cold bloodedly in the name of crazy revenge.

This is where it becomes dramatic. Violence should be pushed to extremes and crimes should be horrendous to make us realise the atrocity of it all.

Children are killed, towns are bombed, people are assassinated to move the public opinion which is unconscious, drugged and intoxicated into a sleep of the innocent.

Wake up lymphatic and amorphous people surrounding us. Lebanon has been burning for 10 years, torn between thousands of undercurrents. Iraq and Iran will soon celebrate their fifth anniversary of war.

What more does the ostrich need to raise its head and look around?

Danes explore wreck of Nelson's flagship in North Sea

By Christopher Follett
Reuter

TORSMINDE, Denmark — Weather permitting, divers will soon begin fresh explorations of Admiral Horatio Nelson's flagship, the St. George, wrecked off the coast of Jutland 173 years ago.

The British hero's vessel lies in 30 feet of water in the North Sea. Hampered by winds and high seas, a 12-member team of divers, conservationists and marine experts from the Danish National Museum could explore the wreck for only 14 days last summer.

But they retrieved over 2,000 artefacts from the lower decks. Michael Teisen, a Danish historian in charge of the project, says these give a better picture than before of the life and running of a major warship in the early 19th century.

When completed in 1785, the St. George was a 145-foot long, 1,980-tonne, 98-gun vessel. Only three of its six original decks are more or less intact today.

It was similar in design, though smaller, to HMS Victory, on which Admiral Nelson died in 1805 during his defeat of the French and Spanish fleets at the battle of Trafalgar.

The St. George was Adm. Nelson's flagship just prior to Britain's victory over the Danes at the battle of Copenhagen in 1801. It was later used in the Baltic to escort convoys carrying timber, flax and tar to Britain during the Napoleonic wars.

On Dec. 24, 1811, accom-

panying a 120-ship convoy on a crossing from Gothenburg, Sweden, to Britain, the St. George and its escort ship, The Defence, ran aground off this fishing hamlet in a storm.

Of approximately 1,400 men on board the two vessels, only 18 survived.

Although bells, cannon and an anchor were salvaged from the ships in the 1870s, it was not until the 1970s that local divers began to take a serious interest in the sand-covered hulk of the St. George. Nothing was left of the wreckage.

A thorough charting of the wreck was carried out by the Danish National Museum, which resulted in the discovery two years ago of a wealth of important artefacts, prompting last year's first major exploration of the St. George.

The haul from the last dive is impressive. Some 250 wine bottles were recovered, many of them still corked, the contents putrid and undrinkable after 173 years of immersion.

Over 100 pounds of glass fragments were also lifted from the wreck, as well as many wine glasses, jugs, vases, jars, pots, bowls, teapots, lids and plates in near perfect condition.

Stoneware containers and receptacles were found in abundance, as were candlesticks, sailors' buttons and buckles, musket balls, pipe bowls and shaving brushes. The bristles long since eroded away.

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ATTENTION

The CONSULAR SECTION of the AMERICAN EMBASSY announces the following new schedule for consular services:

Passports and Other Services 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
for American Citizens Sun.-Thurs.
Submission of Nonimmigrant 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Visa Applications, including only Sun.-Thurs.
visitors, students, businessmen

(Interviews with the consul will follow throughout the morning.)

Immigration Inquiries 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Mon.-Thurs. only

NOTARIALS:
Drop-off Documents 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Sun.-Thurs.
Pick-up Documents (next working day) 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Sun.-Thurs. only

The above schedule will take effect Sunday, March 17, 1985.



Ma'an—southern Jordan-dress, similar to Jerusalem area dress



Ramallah area traditional dress

Egypt's National returns to African Cup after shaky start

CAIRO (R) — National of Egypt meet Tunisia's Marsa here on Friday in an African Cup-Winners' Cup encounter which may see striker Mahmoud Al-Khateib, rated Egypt's top player, back on the pitch after prolonged injury.

National, the cup holders, beat Marsa 1-0 in the first leg nearly two weeks ago, but manager Mahmoud Al-Sayess called that result a shaky start to his 1985 African campaign.

He told Reuters the 'Demons in Red', as fans call National, lost the initiative at the start and only partly regained it after the interval. "I think my players took the Tunisians lightly, letting them threaten our goal on several occasions," he said.

The lone goal came from a penalty by midfielder Magdi Abdul-Ghani in the dying minutes. Sayess said veteran striker Kha-

teib, 30, laid off by a neck injury since December, might make a comeback on Friday, but ruled him out as a starter.

"I would send him on in the second-half if things go well in the first half, like a 2-0 score by half-time," he said.

The injury of Khateib, a fixture in Egypt's national side for nearly a decade, goes back to the Los Angeles Olympic soccer tournament and occurred last December despite treatment.

Khateib, a master of ball-control who can steal a match if left unwatched, would add to pressure on Marsa.

But Sayess said Khateib would be best advised to play it safe and would certainly avoid heading. Apart from Khateib, Sayess has more in store for Marsa whose officials, according to local press reports, are saying they will end National's successful run in Africa.

He said 24-year-old striker Alaa Maihoub is at peak form and his performances in recent matches show him on the way to African stardom.

Maihoub, an opportunist who unleashes drives which belie his small stature, has recently started playing for Egypt and seems to be digging in as a starter.

Sayess also has the enviable task of deciding who to leave out at goal with all his three international goalkeepers, Ahmed Shoubir, Thabet Al-Batal and Ikrami Shahat, fit to play.

Brazil stars in Italy could miss World Cup games

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazil's soccer stars under contract with Italian clubs could be out of World Cup qualifying matches against Paraguay and Bolivia.

Brazilian head-coach Evaristo Macedo said Wednesday he was highly satisfied with the current crop of players in the national league tournament but hardly knew how those playing abroad were performing.

"To call players from overseas I would need to watch them play more than once to see if they are in better condition than our players here," he said. "The fact that they are considered superstars does not give Zico, Falcao, Socrates, Junior or anyone else special privileges."

Zico may have to be left out unless Udinese allow him to report here by mid-April, said Macedo. He is due to name Brazil's squad

on April 14 and players must report for training the next day. Zico said here last week the club would not let him go before May 7.

Falcao, Roma's midfielder recovering in Campinas from knee surgery, would be welcome in the team but it was unclear if he would be fit by mid-April or whether Roma would release him in time, Macedo added.

The head-coach nevertheless voiced confidence his team would not suffer from the absence of Brazil's major footballers.

"Our crop of players is excellent. It would be absurd to say I didn't find 22 good players capable of forming a strong squad," he said.

The Brazilians will play their qualifying matches against Bolivia and Paraguay in June.

Navratilova beats Durie

DALLAS, Texas (AP) — Martina Navratilova of the United States used her old attacking game to defeat Jo Durie of England 6-1, 6-3 Tuesday night in the first round of the \$150,000 Virginia Slims of Dallas tennis tournament.

No. 2 seed Christ Evert Lloyd defeated fellow American Kathy Horvath 7-6, 6-0 in a late-night first-round singles match. Horvath had a 6-5 advantage in the first set, but Evert Lloyd broke serve to even the set at 6-6.

Evert Lloyd won the tie-breaker, 7-2, and was not threatened thereafter.

Navratilova, sporting a new set of eyeglasses, needed only 19 minutes to win the first set from Durie, who double-faulted twice to drop here first service game. Durie played stronger in the second set, breaking serve to even the set at 3-3 when Navratilova double-faulted twice.

The No. 1 seed won the next three games to finish the match in 67 minutes.

Navratilova said she ordered the glasses because "I definitely had a hard time seeing."

She said, "I was mis-hitting a lot of balls. I was having a hard time with the light indoors, but nobody else was. As soon as I tried the glasses, right away it was much better. I tried contact lenses, but

so far, no success."

Durie said the first set was "over in a flash." But, she added, "I was playing pretty well in the second set. I did enjoy myself."

Kathy Jordan won her first-round match by beating fellow American Kathy Rinaldi 6-2, 4-6, 7-5. Melissa Gurney defeated fellow American Lea Antonoplis 6-2, 6-3. Kim Schaefer eliminated fellow American Elise Burgin 5-7, 7-6, 7-6, and Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden defeated Dianne Fromholtz Balestrat of Australia 6-4, 6-3.

Wimbledon prize money increases

LONDON (R) — Prize money at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships will rise a massive 32 per cent to nearly £2 million (\$2.16 million) this year.

The winner of the men's singles title, won by John McEnroe in 1984 — will earn £130,000 (\$140,400) while the women's champion, currently Martina Navratilova, will collect £117,000 (\$126,000).

Buzzer Haddingham, chairman of the All-England Club, said the rise in prize money would compensate non-British players for the recent sharp fall in sterling against the dollar.

Holmes stages the grand finale

LAS VEGAS (R) — Billboards along the garish Las Vegas strip are billing it as 'the grand finale'.

But Larry Holmes has indicated his world heavyweight title defence against little-known David Bey on Friday night may not be his farewell after all.

After working out for perhaps the last time in his 13-year professional career, the unbeaten Holmes said he would formally announce his retirement on June 9, seven years to the day after he won the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight title.

But Holmes, who holds the International Boxing Federation (IBF) title and is generally regarded as the 'people's champion', said he would reconsider retiring if he were guaranteed multi-million dollar purses to fight Gerry Cooney or undisputed light-heavyweight champion Michael Spinks.

"I'll fight Cooney for \$25 million and Spinks for three or four million. But if there are no offers by June 9, that's it," the 35-year-old, unbeaten in 46 fights, said.

However, neither of these fights is likely to take place because of the huge purse Holmes says he needs to take on Cooney, and because he would refuse to fight for promoter Butch Lewis who has a promotional contract with Spinks.

Holmes, who has made 17 title defences, second in number only to Joe Louis, will probably end his career against the 28-year-old Bey, who is ranked second by both the World Boxing Association (WBA) and the WBC.

"Only money will bring me back, and I already have more than I'll ever need," said Holmes, who is believed to have banked about \$20 million.

Despite his wealth, and the imminence of his retirement, Holmes insisted after an hour-long training session that he had not slipped — and if anything was better than ever.

"I'm not old and washed up like a lot of writers think I am," he said, sprawled on a rubbern table playing with his young son, Larry Junior, and his five-year-old daughter, Kandy Larie.

"It used to be that I'd throw 80 or 90 punches a round. Now, I only throw 40 or 50, but about 70 per cent of them land and the punches are more effective."

"I'm older, but smarter, and I use up less energy."

THE Daily Crossword by Samuel K. Flegner

ACROSS

1. Reggae
6. Noddy
10. Kow
14. Mosaic
15. "Britannia"
16. Punctured
17. Lone Ranger's sidekick
18. Type types abbr.
19. Moravian's dream
20. Term of endearment
22. Noted speaker
23. Consequence
24. Flair
25. Strauss opera
30. Eydie's mate
32. Triplet
33. Alliance letters
35. A Ford
38. Not kosher
41. Rival
44. Religious
45. Passage
46. Passport endorsement
47. Be or under
48. Follow
49. Humperdink heroine
51. Example of S&B
54. Tel. label site
56. "The Sun"
57. Term of endearment
63. — temple
64. Sacrifice
65. Trumpet sound
66. Lat. abbr.
67. Shortly
68. Beam acronym
69. Liqueur glass
70. Billionth part
71. Penetrates

DOWN

1. Collections
2. Boast
3. Composer
4. of USA
5. Sock
6. For the present
6. Norwegian
7. Frontier settlement
8. Jal —
9. Cross out
10. Term of endearment
11. Rhine feeder
12. McCarthy or Kline
13. That is
21. Speaker's
22. Ireland
25. Declare
26. Mix
27. A Gullible
28. Easter flower
29. The — (term of endearment)
31. Black toucan
34. Disoriented
40. Dusted
45. — de geste
46. Dustbin
50. Common people
51. Orkney tuber
52. Disciple of Socrates
53. Dam in Egypt
55. "I don't — respect"
56. A Chaplin
59. — Bator
60. Cartoonist
61. Indian
62. Berlin title

United topples Tottenham

LONDON (R) — Manchester United boosted their English First Division Soccer Championship hopes when they beat title rivals Tottenham 2-1 away Tuesday night.

United stay third but their win lifted them to within four points of leaders Everton, who have played two matches fewer and have one game in hand over second-placed Tottenham, two points behind.

Welsh striker Mark Hughes fired United ahead after 23 minutes but the Manchester club, cha-

sing a league and English Football Association (F.A.) Cup double, had to wait until the 83rd minute to seal success.

Northern Ireland striker Norman Whiteside scored the second goal to end Tottenham's sequence of 14 league games without defeat. Mark Falco pulled one back two minutes later.

Three players were sent off in the goalless first division draw between bottom club Stoke and West Bromwich Albion.

Handicapped sport festival set for Monday

AMMAN (Petra) — A sport festival for physically handicapped will be held Monday at the University of Jordan under the patronage of His Highness Prince Ra'ed bin Zaid, the Chief Chamberlain and Her Highness Princess Majeda. The physically handicapped centres in Jordan will be taking part in the festival which will include basketball and football activities as well as athletics competitions.

Khan into quarter-finals

PARIS (R) — World number one Jahangir Khan of Pakistan reached the quarter-finals of the French Open Squash Championship Tuesday with a straight-games victory over Egypt's Gamal Awad.

Jahangir, unbeaten for the past four years, quelled a comeback by Awad midway through the first game before clinching the second round match 9-5, 9-1, 9-0 in 35 minutes.

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BANGLADESHI PASSPORT LOST

Siddiqur Rahman Wali Ullah has lost his passport No. E040412 issued in Bangladesh. Those who find it are kindly requested to deliver it to the nearest police station or to P.O. Box 8288, Awajan - Zarqa.

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.0850/60	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3890/3900	Canadian dollars
	3.3530/60	West German marks
	3.7940/70	Dutch guilders
	2.8450/8500	Swiss francs
	67.20/30	Belgian francs
	10.2400/2500	French francs
	2098.0/2101.0	Italian lire
	259.65/80	Japanese yen
	9.5400/5500	Swedish crowns
	9.6125/6225	Norwegian crowns
	11.9900/12.0000	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	289.80/290.30	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities ended mixed after an irregular trend in small turnover. Dealers said they anticipate an quiet run-up to the U.K. budget next week with company results and takeover situations attracting most attention. The FTSE 100 index was down 1.9 at 1298.1.

CKN returned to 220 having dipped to 215 on profit-taking after its results for 1984 which were in line with expectations. United Biscuits dropped 5p to 188 following its one for five 198.2 million rights issue which accompanied its full year figures at the top end of market forecasts.

Gold shares firmed and North Americans were mixed.

Oils were marked down on news the U.K. government will abolish the state-owned British National Oil Corp. B.P. at 528. Lasso at 338 and Shell at 788 all shed 8p. Ultramar returned to 210 on profit-taking having touched 216 after annual results.

W.H. Smith rose 14p to 222 on bid speculation. Arthur Guinness, rumoured as a possible bidder rose 5p to 257. Harrison Crossfield dropped 7p to 436 after its agreed increased bid for Pauls which firmed 4p to 368. Sears Holdings gained 1p to 87½ after 88½ following its recommended offer for Foster Brothers which shed 4p to 224.

YOUR DAILY
Horoscope
from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURS., MARCH 14, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is no day to take any chances where your vocation or worldly activities are concerned and you would be wise to build up support of those in power.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Make sure you take care of important business affairs and don't run off on some personal spree. Socialize in the evening.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) If you interfere in some altercation between a partner and an outsider, you will accomplish very little today.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You want to follow suggestions of an advisor, but your mate does not agree, so sleep on it for the time being.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) A partner expects much of you and you also have many outside duties to perform. Schedule time wisely.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) This is not the right time to put that new idea to work, so keep it in abeyance for now. Handle duties important to your welfare.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get into amusements that are less expensive and build up a reserve. Make sure you keep a promise to your mate.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't permit an outsider to meet with a close tie who is disliked or a royal battle could erupt. Handle new situations quickly.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have to be adroit in handling your work as well as communications, so schedule your time wisely.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Before you get into that amusement you seek, be sure to find out the cost. Improve your talents.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Avoid that situation at home early and be out in the business world and accomplish a great deal.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Plan your time well so that you can be out in the business world and accomplishing much during the day.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A dynamic pal has ideas how you can make fast money, but this is not for you. Go to experts for advice.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will easily understand coming trends, but will also appreciate whatever has been found to be valuable in the past, so be sure to give as fine an education as you can. Upon reaching maturity, much success is achieved.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime brings lack of some of the feeling of well-being that you like so much, but be patient as the late day and evening finds you able to achieve much of value.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Higher-ups are not in the mood to release favors in the morning, but later they change their minds and all is well.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't jump into some new kind of work during the daytime, but later you can study it further and get much accomplished.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Use only mature judgment since your intuition is apt to be off kilter. In the evening, all clears up for you.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't force associates to agree with one of your plans since they are busy with their own right now.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Study the work you have promised to do and don't make any revisions during the daytime. By evening, you gain the good will of all.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Forget expensive pleasures during the day and keep busy at work. Tonight you can enjoy inexpensive amusements.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) If you are unkind, you could upset a family tie very badly, so be gentle and in the evening, home life gets heavenly.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Don't be upset by some letter or phone call you receive in the morning, since later you find others are most friendly and extend favors.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Use care in the spending of money today and try to build up your bank account. Get estimates for repair work.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You may feel disgruntled during the day for lack of fun, but use patience and tonight you get relief from tensions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Some personal worries can annoy you during the daytime, but relax and tonight you know how to solve the problems.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A dynamic pal endeavors to involve you in something you do not like, so give him or her room, and tonight you can enjoy a good friend.

Bonn registers deficit on Third World trade

BONN (R) — West Germany, Western Europe's biggest economy, recorded a trade deficit with the Third World last year despite posting a record overall trade surplus, the government said Tuesday.

The economics ministry called the deficit a contribution towards improving the developing countries' trading positions, strengthening their economic development and easing their considerable debt problems.

Developing countries increased the value of imports to West Germany by 11 per cent to almost 70 billion marks (\$21 billion) compared with 1983.

West Germany's exports to the Third World rose by only half a per cent to 67.6 billion marks (\$20 billion) giving a trade deficit of 2.2 billion marks (\$650 million) after a surplus in 1983.

African nations showed the biggest increase, boosting sales 15 per cent to 23.6 billion marks (\$7 billion), with Nigeria and Libya the most important single suppliers.

The critical economic situation in Africa made the increase in imports from that region especially pleasing, the ministry said.

Major strikes appear inevitable in Denmark

COPENHAGEN (AP) — Major strikes and lockouts affecting more than 300,000 Danish workers appeared inevitable Wednesday after failure of the latest attempt at mediating deadlocked general wage negotiations.

Mr. Per Lindegaard, the government appointed arbiter, announced Wednesday that Denmark's Employers' Association and the national organization, the Trade Unions Federation, were still so far apart that there was little chance of preventing a major conflict from going into effect on Monday.

A combination of strikes and lockouts was expected to cripple public transport, power supply, fuel distribution and other areas of the Danish economy if the deadlock continued.

There had been little progress since early December in talks over a new two-year private sector wage agreement.

Union negotiators had been pushing for reduction of the 40-hour work week, the equivalent of six per cent annual wage increases and bigger hikes for lowest-paid workers.

Employers, claiming the union demands would amount to a double-digit percentage hike, held out for increases "as close to zero as possible."

Unless the state mediator was able later this week to submit a compromise with enough promise to postpone the conflict, the only other option for avoiding strikes appeared to be government intervention.

Prime Minister Poul Schluter's centre-right coalition appeared Wednesday to be taking a wait-and-see attitude, making no immediate comment on the situation.

Talks seem unsuccessful to stabilise cocoa market

GENEVA (R) — Efforts by 70 countries to negotiate a new international cocoa agreement to stabilise the volatile world market appear to be headed towards collapse, delegates to a U.N.-sponsored conference said Wednesday.

The conference, which began on Feb. 19 and is due to end later this week, represents the third attempt at a new accord. Delegates said differences between producing and consuming countries on price support levels remained unresolved.

The current accord guarantees a price of \$1.06 a pound but became inoperative three years ago due to lack of financial backing to lift prices from levels at which they would normally trade. Cocoa now trades at about 96 cents a pound.

Conference Chairman Rene Montes of Guatemala told Reuters: "We are now at the critical part of the negotiations. Price levels and price adjustments are for both sides fundamental."

Producers and the European Community, which represents the majority of consumers, have informally hinted at their final positions on price stabilisation levels, delegates said.

These would leave a gap between the two sides of 10 cents per pound, or roughly the difference between the level guaranteed by the existing accord and cocoa's current price.

Any compromise could be made more difficult by disarmament on measures for periodic review of prices if they moved outside the target area, the delegates said.

Failure of the negotiations would probably not unduly concern the world's two largest producers, the Ivory Coast and Brazil, but would cause problems for other countries such as Ghana that still rely on cocoa for most of their foreign exchange income, according to cocoa economists.

Tight world supplies and the strong dollar have both helped boost earnings in recent months but with a return to surpluses expected in the longer term prices could plummet and drastically hit the less diversified economies, they said.

Most consuming countries feel they have nothing to gain from an agreement which is not economically viable and many would welcome a permanent return to free-market forces, they said.

Sudan hikes petrol prices

CAIRO (R) — Sudan Tuesday raised the price of petrol by 60 per cent to eight Sudanese pounds (\$3.20) from five (\$2). Egypt's Middle East News Agency reported from Khartoum.

President Jaafar Numeiri had said prices for fuel and other basic commodities would have to rise to compensate for last month's 48 per cent devaluation of the pound and reflect their true cost on international market.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and major Sudanese creditors including the United States had called for price rises as part of wide-ranging economic reforms.

The U.S. and the IMF have suspended balance of payments support for Sudan pending an overhaul of its economy, which is stricken by heavy debts, low productivity and drought.

Sudan imports all its fuel needs and private motorists are limited to a weekly ration of four gallons of petrol because of acute shortages.

Kuwait, China discuss closer economic ties

KUWAIT (R) — Senior Kuwaiti and Chinese officials had wide-ranging talks Wednesday aimed at forging closer economic ties, with joint ventures in energy and other industrial fields.

China's state councillor for finance and economy, Mr. Zang Jingxi said on arrival here Tuesday night for a three-day visit that a number of joint projects were under study.

He confirmed reports that Kuwait, China and Tunisia had agreed recently to set up a joint fertiliser plant in China.

Industry sources believe Kuwait will supply the capital, Tunisia the technology and phosphoric acid, and China the gas feedstock needed for the urea plant.

"We are looking at more projects with Kuwait," said Mr. Zang, adding: "We welcome investment by Kuwait in our country."

Saudi French bank boosts profits in '84

JEDDAH (R) — Saudi French Bank reported Wednesday a 4.9 per cent increase in 1984 profits, the third Saudi bank to announce 1984 results and the first to show higher earnings. The bank, in accounts published Wednesday in Saudi newspapers, said profits before taxes rose to 170.4 million riyals (\$47.2 million) from 162.5 million (\$45.0 million) in 1983.

Of this, a total 27 million riyals (\$7.5 million) was paid in income taxes and Islamic zakat, against 24.1 million (\$6.7 million) in 1983. The bank, 40 per cent owned by Banque Indosuez of France, said it would distribute 38.5 million riyals (\$10.7 million) to shareholders in 1984, up from 37.7 million (\$10.4 million) the year before.

EC ministers clinch deal on agricultural payments

BRUSSELS (R) — European Community (EC) agriculture ministers agreed early Wednesday on a new five-year programme of grants to modernise the 10-nation group's poorest and most inefficient farms, diplomats said.

The deal, clinched after hours of wrangling over details, was hailed as a first successful test of new rules drawn up last year after high farm spending plunged the Community into a budget crisis.

In accordance with the rules, the bloc's finance ministers proposed a financial ceiling of 5.25 billion European Currency Units (ECUs) (\$3.6 billion) for the package on Monday.

It was the first time they had set a limit for an individual farm spending programme. Previously they set only the overall farm budget.

Britain rules out reverse in strategy towards EMS

LONDON (R) — The British government is no closer to linking the pound sterling to the European Monetary System (EMS) exchange-rate mechanism than it was before the recent sterling crisis, government sources said Wednesday.

The run on the pound this year, higher interest rates, worldwide currency turmoil and calls for action from industry and leading politicians have not changed the government's view that the time is not right for full EMS membership.

The EMS was launched on March 13, 1979, to limit volatility in the rates at which its eight member currencies change hands on world money markets. It sets fluctuation bands.

British government sources dismissed market talk and press comment about a possible recent shift in official thinking.

The last official word came a week ago from the Earl of Gowrie, government economic spokesman

in the Upper House of Parliament. "We are ready to join when the circumstances are right", he said, adding: "Recent events in themselves do not suggest that our position is wrong at present."

Earl of Gowrie's remarks were interpreted by some commentators as meaning the EMS option was gaining favour. But a senior official told Reuters Wednesday: "They are making bricks without straw."

The EMS has proved a haven of stability for trade between its eight nations in the past two years, which have passed without any currency realignments. Its supporters say sterling as a member currency would have been less vulnerable to speculation centred on the strong dollar.

The government's main defence of its policy of keeping the pound sterling out of the EMS has been its petrocurrency status, because of the impact of North Sea oil on Britain's economy.

Falling U.S. microchip sales could bring crisis to industry

NEW YORK (R) — Sales of U.S. microchips have taken their most dramatic dive ever and the industry could face a crisis if they do not pick up soon, business analysts say.

Some experts predict losses could appear in balance sheets by May, saying that after a profitable 1984 much of the U.S. industry, weakened by Japanese competition and slack demand from domestic computer makers, retreated to breaking even last month.

Used in all computers, microchips, or semiconductors as they are also known, are tiny soldered circuits enabling the machine to process data and perform calculations.

Analysts began slashing estimates of chipmakers' earnings after Texas Instruments, the largest U.S. manufacturer, extended cutbacks in production schedules through the first half of 1985.

Also worrying for the industry was an announcement from Intel, another large chipmaker, saying it would have a breakeven quarter, and subsequent statements from smaller companies that they were planning layoffs.

Last Friday another big manufacturer, National Semiconductor Corp. said: "It appears the industry is at the bottom of its cycle, but there are no indications of an upturn."

Mr. Michael Krasko, analyst for L.F. Rothchild Unterberg Tow-

bin, said: "If orders don't pick up in a couple of months, the industry is going to have to either make further cuts, or change some of its long-term plans."

He said modernisation programmes needed to stay competitive with Japan could be scaled down as a result of the crisis.

One Wall Street underwriter said there is fear that even after orders pick up, semiconductor makers will have to survive with an entirely new, lower price structure.

Companies were surprised that price slashing reached even the newest generation of increased-capacity memory chip, the dynamic random access memory

The new rules on financing were introduced after farm spending soared to over 19 billion ECUs (\$14 billion) last year.

The previous package worth 3.75 billion ECUs (\$2.1 billion) expired at the end of last summer and has since been renewed monthly. The finance ministers scaled down original proposals for a new package from the executive commission by about 10 per cent.

Peanuts



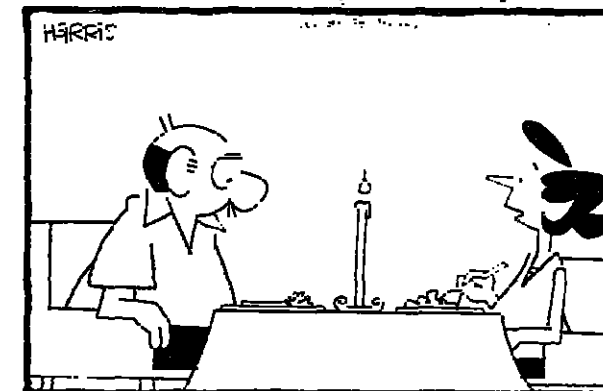
Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF



"On this diet you can eat anything you want... but you're only allowed to want celery!"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TUINY

SITOF

PEAQUO

CLIPSE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: MAKER FLUID SNUGLY NIMBLE
Answer: The feeling he got when he saw that the boat had sprung a leak—a "SINKING" ONE

